

URBAN DISTRICT OF BRIXHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SANITARY INSPECTOR

-0000-

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URBAN DISTRICT OF BRIXHAM

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor W. W. Stokes, J.P.,

Public Health Committee:

Councillor W. R. Foot
(Chairman)

Councillors W. W. Stokes, F. P. Lee, A. E. Buley, F. H. Park,
W. J. Hazlewood, Mrs. W. R. Harris-St.John.

Housing Committee:

Councillor S. G. Mutter
(Chairman)

Councillors W. W. Stokes, Mrs. A. M. Park, J. Heron,
J. R. Owen, C. M. Ashford, Mrs. W. R. Harris-St.John

Clerk and Solicitor of the Council:

T. Owen Davies.

Public Health Staff:

Medical Officer of Health and Medical Officer for Maternity
and Child Welfare Centre, and Port Medical Officer.

"+ Andrew Dick, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Port Medical Officer

@" J. I. Snodgrass, M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and Foods, Port
Health Inspector, Housing Officer and Inspector under the
Petroleum and Explosive Acts.

"+ Francis Lawrence Godfrey, M.R.S.I., F.S.I.A.

Clerk and Typist for Medical Officer and Sanitary Inspector

@ Mrs. D. Worrall.

@ Part-time

" Whole time

+ Salary contribution by Exchequer Grants.

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF BRIXHAM FOR 1949.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1949.

The Birth Rate at 14.16 per thousand population is very little less than last year (14.66)

The Registrar-General has again resumed the practice of providing a Comparative Factor for the Death Rate, so that the latter can be standardised according to the Sex and age-grouping of the population of a District to make the Rate strictly comparable with the Rate in all other areas according to their sex and age-groups proportions. This gives a Standardised Death Rate for Brixham of 12.21 per thousand population.

There were few cases of infectious disease: Measles caused 11 cases, and Poliomyelitis 2, despite a greater prevalence of the latter in the country generally.

Diphtheria Immunisation was completed in 125 infants under 4 years of age, and reinforcing protective doses given to 103 older children.

No action was required under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act of 1948.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A. Dick,
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District	...	...	...	...	5,626	acres
Population, 1931 Census	...	...	...	...	8,145	
Population, estimated 1949	...	...	...	...	8,757	
Number of Inhabited Houses 1949	...	...	...	...	2,760	
Rateable Value of District at April 1st 1949:						
Inside Harbour Rating Area	£48,624	
Outside Harbour Area	3,594	
					<u>£52,218</u>	

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VITAL STATISTICS 1949.

				Male	Female	Total
<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	53	71	124
Legitimate	50	69	119
Illegitimate	..	...	...	3	2	5
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	..	14.16				
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>				2	2	4
Legitimate	...	...	...	1	5	6
Illegitimate	..	...	...	0	0	1
<u>DEATHS</u>	...	...	...	63	76	139
Comparability Factor	...	...	...	...	...	0.77
True Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	..	...	...	...	...	15.87
Death Rate standardised according to age and sex of Resident Population	...	...	...	...	...	12.21
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:						
Legitimate	...	...	...	1	5	6
Illegitimate	..	...	...	0	0	0
				1	5	6
Deaths rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	48.38		

5.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Death rate per 1,000 live and still births	.	...	...	...	...	00.00	

RAINFALL - 1949.

January	1.03	May	3.18	September	3.05
February	1.92	June	.60	October	8.25
March	1.22	July	1.63	November	4.98
April	1.84	August	1.82	December	1.55

Total 31.07 inches

By courtesy of Sir Harold Clayton.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Pneumonia	...	...	...	8
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	2
Measles	...	...	...	11
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	8
				<hr/>
				29
				<hr/>

CAUSES OF DEATH in 1949 (As supplied by the Registrar General)

DISEASE	Male	Female	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever			
Measles...	
Scarlet Fever	
Whooping Cough	
Diphtheria	
Influenza	1 1
Encephalitis	
Cerebro Spinal Fever..	
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	3 3	6
Other Tuberculosis	1	1
Syphilis	
Cancer	6 17	23
Diabetes	1	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage &c	12 8	20
Heart Disease	17 16	33
Other Circulatory Diseases	2 4	6
Bronchitis	1	1
Pneumonia (all forms):	...	3 3	6
Other Respiratory Diseases..	...	1	2
Ulcer (Gastric & Duodenal)		
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)...	...		
Appendicitis	1	1
Other digestive diseases	2 2	4
Acute and Chronic Nephritis,	...	3 4	7
Puerperal Sepsis		
Other Puerperal Diseases		
Congenital debility, premature birth etc	1	5	6
Suicide...	...	1	1
Other Violence	1 2	3
All other causes	8 7	15
Road Traffic Accidents	...	2	2
Total all causes	...	63 76	139

7.

Age per- iods	TUBERCULOSIS							
	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-respira- tory		Respiratory		Non-Respira- tory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0								
1								
5								
11								
15								
25	1	3					3	1
35	2					3		
45		2						
55								
65 and upwards								
Totals	3	5				3	3	1

ANNUAL REPORT
 of the
SANITARY INSPECTOR.

for the year ending 31st December, 1949.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present my twenty-fourth Annual Report, as required by the Minister of Health.

Yours faithfully,

F. L. GODFREY,

Sanitary Inspector and
 Inspector of Meat and Foods.

HOUSING 1949.

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

(a) Total (including number given separate under (b))

I	By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	24
	Cornish Unit Flats	....				
	Two-bedroomed houses	..					17
II	By Other Authorities	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	~
III	By other bodies or persons	.....					6

(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts:

I	By the Local Authority	.....	41
(a)	For the purpose of Part II of the		
	Housing Act 1925	.....	0
(b)	For the purpose of Part III of		
	the Housing Act 1925	.....	0
(c)	For other bodies	.....	0
II	By other bodies	.....	0

HOUSING STATISTICS 1949.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:-

(1) (a) Total Number of Dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..	89
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	123
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (including under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	67
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	95
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..	2
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	26

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	53
---	----

3. Action under Statutory powers during the year:

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, .. 16 of the Housing Act 1936:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	32
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	32
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	43	
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	43	
(a) By owners	43	
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0	
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936:		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0	
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0	
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936:		
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2	
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0	
4. Housing Act 1936, Part IV (Overcrowding)		
(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	1	
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	2	
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	12	
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	3	
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	2	
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	14	

(d) Particulars of cases in which Dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider desirable to report	0

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SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT
and work of the Public Health Department 1949

HOUSING

Number of Dwelling-houses completed during year 1949:

Flats (Cornish Unit)	24
Detached houses	0
Terrace houses (17 two-bedroomed)	17
Bungalows	4
Semi-bungalows	2

Total number of dwelling-houses completed during year 1948

47

Public Buildings, Workshops etc.

2

Number of houses built during the year for working classes:

For Local Authority	41
By Private effort	6

Number of new houses or flats required for working classes

250

Houses inspected

116

Cases of Overcrowding abated

2

Defective Houses repaired

69

Defective floors repaired

7

Defective roofs repaired or renewed

26

Defective yards paved

2

Defective external plastering repaired

7

Defective internal plastering repaired

6

Defective windows repaired

11

Defective stoves repaired

14

Number of houses dealt with under Housing (Rural

Workers) Adt 1926:

During year

0

Total to date

23

DRAINS AND DRAINAGE.

Sewers extensions during year	0
Drains examined	105
Defective drains repaired or renewed	47
Certificates issued in respect of drainage of new buildings	6
Certificates issued in respect of drainage of existing buildings	49
Existing W.C.s fitted with flushing cisterns, or cisterns renewed	16
Defective traps removed or replaced with approved stoneware gully traps	9
Defective W.C.s repaired	21
Automatic cisterns fixed	4

The following sanitary fittings have been installed during the year:

New baths	71
W.C.s	143
Lavatory basins	69
Urinals	2
Scullery sinks	105
Septic tanks	2

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION

Rooms fumigated	67
Articles of clothing and bedding disinfected	42
Articles of clothing and bedding destroyed	19
Rooms disinfected for notifiable infectious diseases ..	16
Rooms disinfected for tuberculosis	15
Rooms disinfected for verminous condition	32
Cases removed to Isolation Hospital	7

MEAT AND FOODS INSPECTION

(Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924)

Number of butchers shops in the district	8
Other Food shops and stores	89
Number of visits to butchers shops	92
Number of visits to other food shops and stores	254

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND FOODS.

Slaughtering in District (except for Casuals) ceased in January 1940 (M.O.F. Order). All meat is received from Paignton Depot.

WEIGHT OF UNFIT FOOD DESTROYED

	Tuberculosis lbs.	Other Diseases and conditions lbs.	Total lbs.
Beef	-	704	704
Mutton	-	-	-
Pork	-	-	-
Offals	-	195	195
TOTAL	-	899	899

The following Foods have been surrendered as unsound:-

15 tins Full cream Milk; 140 tins Evaporated milk;
 53 lbs cheeses; 315 eggs; 11 tins Pilchards; 2 tins salmon;
 30 tins mussels; 3 tins sardines; 41 tins codfish;
 4 tins Crab paste; 5 stone ; 2 tins Rabbit;
 4 tins Beef loaf; 12 tins Minced beef; 4 tins stewed
 steak; 4 tins Luncheon meat; 25 tins Veal loaf;
 1 tin tongue; 7 tins whale meat; 11 tins pork; 5 tins
 brawn; 9 tins soup; 7 tins mexican beef; 6 tins baked
 beans; 2 tins beetroot; 45 tins peas; 9 tins tomatoes;
 10 tins tomato juice; 12 tins tomato puree; 1 tin carrots;
 1 bottle chutney; 9 tins peaches; 3 tins gooseberries;
 2 tins apples; 1 tin pears; 1 tin plums; 2 tins oranges;
 21 tins grape fruit juice; 1 tin jam; 16 lbs spaghetti;
 101 lbs cake mixture; 28 lbs mincemeat; 80 lbs figs;
 40 lbs tomatoes; 20 lbs liver sausage; 10 lbs black
 pudding; 6 lbs cake.

FOOD POISONING, 1949.

A. Total number of outbreaks Nil
 B. Number of cases Nil
 C. Number of Deaths Nil

14.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Number of cow-keepers and dairymen registered at end of year:

Producer Wholesalers	6
Producer Wholesalers and Retailers	4
Producer Retailers	14
Retailers	15
Number removed from Register	2

Number of Cowsheds in District	31
Number of cowsheds without impervious floors	4
Number of cowsheds with unsatisfactory drainage .	1
Number of cowsheds with unsatisfactory ventilation	2
Number of cowsheds with unsatisfactory lighting .	2
Number of cowsheds with unsatisfactory water supply0	

Number of visits to dairies, cowsheds, farms etc. 45

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Number of slaughterhouses in district:

Registered) not in	3
Licensed) use	0

Number of visits to slaughterhouses

Number of visits to premises where emergency or
occasional slaughtering is carried out

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of noxious or offensive trades in district 0

NUISANCES

Complaints of nuisances received	62
Informal notices served	9
Statutory Notices served	0
Nuisances abated without written notice	47

15
SCHOOLS.

Number of schools in District:

Public .....	.....	5
Private .....	.....	2
Number of schools found defective .....	.....	2
Number of notices to Managers .....	.....	2
Number of visits to schools .....	.....	12

BAKEHOUSES.

Number of bakehouses in district .....	.....	8
Number of inspections .....	.....	26
Number found defective .....	.....	1
Number of notices to remedy .....	.....	1

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Number of factories and workshops registered in district 53.

Premises (1)	Inspec- tions (2)	Number of written notices (3)	Occupiers prose- cuted. (4)
FACTORIES with Mechanical power	19	37	3
Factories without mechanical power	31	51	1
+ OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	3	7	
+Electrical stations should be reckoned as factories	53	95	4

2. Defects found:

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of offen- ces in respect to which prosecu- tions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Reme- died (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspec- tor (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S1) ..	5	5		
Overcrowding (S2)				
Unreasonable temperature (S3)				
Inadequate ventilation (S4)				
Ineffective ventilation of floors (S6)	1	1		
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)				
Insufficient	1	1		
Unsuitable or defective ..	2	22		
Not separate for sexes ..				
Other offences				
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Section mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops) (Transfer of Powers) Order 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act 1937)				
	9	9		

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

(1) (a) Number of Council houses found to be infested 0
 (b) Number of Council houses disinfected 0

(b) Number of other houses found to be infested . 3
 Number of other houses disinfected 3

(2) Spraying with approved insecticide after removing wallpaper, skirting etc.

(3) No action is taken before the removal of the tenants belongings, except inspection by the Sanitary Inspector.

(4) Work of disinfection is carried out by the Public Health Department.

(5) Tenants are advised by the Sanitary Inspector as to measures to prevent re-infestation after cleansing.

PETROLEUM AND EXPLOSIVES ACTS.Particulars of Registration

Number of Licences granted to store Petroleum Spirit ... 21
 Number of Licences granted to store Carbide of Calcium.. 1
 Number of Licences granted to store Mixed Explosives ... 6
 Number of Licences granted to store Gunpowder and Mixed Explosives in Magazines 2

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT 1919.Infestation Order 1944.

The agreement with the Dartmouth Corporation for their operator to carry out Rodent Control in Brixham on alternate weeks is proving satisfactory, and further progress has been made in the control by block treatment of properties. The sewer treatment has been carried out. Test Baiting and maintenance has been continued. The Public are making good use of the service to private dwellings and owners of business premises are co-operating in treatment measures.

PORT HEALTH DISTRICT OF BRIXHAM.

DETAILS OF SHIPPING

Entering the Port Health District of Brixham and
Record of Inspection for the year 1949, ending
31st December.

1. Amount of Shipping entering the port during the year (Table A)

	Number	Nett Tonnage M.O.H.	Numbers inspected By Port By Port San.In.	Numbers reported to be defec- tive	Numbers of orders issued
FOREIGN	75 63 46 317	652,793 204,004 889 6,858	1 2 5 3	2 2 5 3	
	501	864,544	3	10	
TOTAL FOREIGN					
COAST- WISE	12 75 85 3	3,298 23,612 2,200 60	1 1 2 1	3 12 9 1	
TOTAL COASTWISE	175	29,800	4	25	
TOTAL FOREIGN AND COASTWISE	676	894,344	7	35	
BRIXHAM TRAWLERS	54			Frequent insp- ections made.	

II CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.
(Table B)

(a) Passenger Traffic.

No Passengers have landed or embarked during the year.

(b) Cargo Traffic.

Principal Imports - Oil
Principal Exports - Oil

(c) Foreign Ports from which vessels arrive.

Various foreign ports with and for oil bunkers.

III. WATER SUPPLY.

(1) Source of Supply.

Water is supplied direct from the town reservoirs both to the port and shipping.

(2) Hydrants and hose-pipes are kept in lockers when not in use.

(3) There is one water boat owned by the Torbay Coaling Company Limited, for supplying ships, and this boat is in good condition.

IV. PORT SANITARY REGULATIONS 1933 - 1945.

- (1) Declarations of Health are handed to the masters of ships on arrival of the staff of H.M. Customs.
- (2) The boats of the local coaling company are available for boarding vessels on arrival.
- (3) Notification of any vessel requiring special attention is received by H.M. Customs or the local coaling company and is telephoned to the Public Health Office.
- (4) A Mooring station for infected vessels is provided at the entrance to the Outer Harbour.
- (5) The Port Medical Officer is prepared to grant the usual standing exemptions for -
 - (a) All other unhealthy vessels other than those included in Articles 12 and 14(1)
 - (b) Vessels otherwise healthy which have arrived from listed ports in infected areas.

(6) In cases in which persons have to be notified as proceeding to this area from a vessel on which infectious disease has occurred, it is the practice for the Medical Officer to examine the person on arrival, and at intervals, as required by the regulations.

(7) (a) A waiting room is provided on the Pier, where persons could be examined.

(b) The necessary material for fumigation of cabins bunks, etc., is provided by the Public Health Department.

Disinfection of clothes or bedding would be carried out at Paignton Hospital by arrangement.

(c) Temporary accommodation for the purpose of the regulations would be provided at one of the hospitals in the District.

(d) Hospital accommodation for Plague, Cholera etc., is provided by the Devon County Council at Exeter.

(e) Ambulance transport for infectious cases (d) is provided by the Devon County Council.

(f) The local Port Medical Officer would be responsible for the supervision of contacts.

(8) Pathological and bacteriological examinations would be carried out by the County Medical Department.

(9) ditto.

(10) Treatment for venereal disease is available at Torquay Hospital Clinic.

(11) Arrangements for the internment of the dead is made by the local agents for the shipping company concerned in conjunction with the Port Health Officer.

(12) Nil.

Table C - No cases of infectious sickness have been landed during the year.

Table D - No reports made.

V. MEASURE AGAINST RODENTS.

- (1) (a) Ships in the Port are inspected for the presence of Rats.
- (b) The quays, wharves, and stores are also inspected at regular intervals.
- (2) Rat guards are fitted to ships.
- (3) (a) Arrangements would be made with Plymouth, if required.
- (b) Baits are laid in stores etc.
- (4) Reports received from masters, occupiers, etc.
- (5) Stores built of stone and sheet iron.

Table E - No information available.

Table F - Approximately 84 brown rats and 9 black rats.

Table G - Nil

Table H - Not an approved Port

Table J - No defects notified.

VII FOOD INSPECTED.

- (1) No food imports
- (2) No shell-fish bed or laying in the Port Health District
- (3) No samples taken.

I wish to express my very best thanks to the Officers of H.M. Customs, and the Harbour Master, for their co-operation and assistance.

F. L. GODFREY, F.S.I.A.

Port Health Inspector.

